



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/580,272	05/25/2000	Rocco A. DiValentino	PALM-3085.US.P	9398

7590

07/30/2003

Wagner Murabito & Hao LLP
Third Floor
Two North Market Street
San Jose, CA 95113

EXAMINER

MIRZA, ADNAN M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2141

DATE MAILED: 07/30/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/580,272

Applicant(s)

DIVALENTINO, ROCCO A.

Examiner

Adnan M Mirza

Art Unit

2141

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 August 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 August 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greer et al (U.S. 6,247,048) and in view of Solymar et al (U.S. 6,244,758).

As per claims 1,9 Greer disclosed a method of communicating with a peripheral computer system comprising the steps of: a) said peripheral computer system creating a communication link with a host computer system using one transport mechanism of a plurality of possible transport mechanisms (col. 3, lines 65-67 & col. 4, lines 1-9); b) said host computer system recognizing said one transport mechanism used in step a); c) said host computer system determining a communication protocol from a plurality of possible communication protocols based on said one transport mechanism used in step a) (col. 4, lines 18-33);

However Greer did not go in details as d) said host computer system communicating information to said peripheral computer system based on said communication protocol determined at step c).

In the same field of endeavor solymar disclosed alternatively or simultaneously, client computer may be connected to the Internet through private network having gateway to the Internet or the equivalent. In alternative embodiment, client computer may be linked to Internet provider and private network via wireless links and respectively. For illustrative purposes, the communication link is a SLIP link (col. 6, lines 62-67 & col. 7, lines 1-4). The SLIP stands for Serial Link Interface Protocol.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated the alternatively or simultaneously, client computer may be connected to the Internet through private network having gateway to the Internet or the equivalent. In alternative embodiment, client computer may be linked to Internet provider and private network via wireless links and respectively. For illustrative purposes, the communication link is a SLIP link as taught by Solymar in the method of Greer to increase the stability of the methodology and provides an improved means for inexpensively and reliably locating lost or stolen items.

3. As per claims 2,11 Greer-Solymar disclosed wherein said plurality of transport mechanisms comprises: communication via a serial line coupled to said host computer; communication via a networked line coupled to said host computer using a network; communication via a wireless link to said host computer; and communication via the Internet (Solymar, col. 5, lines 34-50).

Art Unit: 2141

4. As per claims 3,14 Greer-Solymar disclosed wherein said communication protocol determined at step c) restricts data volume communicated to said peripheral computer system (Greer, col. 8, lines 3-12).

5. As per claims 4,15 Greer-Solymar disclosed wherein said communication protocol determined at step c) selects a particular user authentication protocol (Greer, col. 4, lines 12-18).

As per claims 5,16 Greer-Solymar disclosed wherein said communication protocol determined at step c) selects a particular data encryption protocol performed to establish data communication between said peripheral computer system and host computer system (Solymar, col. 6, lines 45-62).

6. As per claims 6,17 Greer-Solymar disclosed wherein said communication protocol determined at step c) selects a particular data set that can be accessed by said peripheral computer system (Greer, col. 4, lines 18-41).

7. As per claims 7,18 Greer-Solymar disclosed wherein said peripheral computer system is a personal digital assistant (PDA) (Solymar, col. 5, lines 1-6).

8. As per claims 8,10,12,13,20,21 Greer-Solymar disclosed further comprising the step of e) updating said plurality of communication protocols wherein said step comprises the steps of: e1) allowing a first set of said plurality of communication protocols to be updated by a system administrator (Greer, col. 4, lines 18-41), said first set applied to all users; and e2) allowing a

Art Unit: 2141

second set of said plurality of communication protocols to be updated by a given user, said second set applicable only to said given user (Greer, col. 3, lines 45-62).

9. As per claim 19 Greer-Solymar disclosed a communication link, said communication link connecting said host computer system to said peripheral computer system; said communication link being made on one transport mechanism of a plurality of transport mechanisms (Greer, col. 3, lines 65-67 & col. 4, lines 1-9); architecture on said host computer system, said architecture for determining said one transport mechanism of a plurality of transport mechanisms; adaptation software residing on said host computer system, said adaptation software operable to determine a communication protocol from a plurality of communication protocols based on said one transport mechanism (Greer, col. 4, lines 18-33); communication software residing on said host computer system, said communication software operable to transfer data between said host computer system and said peripheral computer system based on said communication protocol determined by said adaptation software (Greer, col. 4, lines 12-17).

Conclusion

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Adnan Mirza whose telephone number is (703)-305-4633.

Art Unit: 2141

11. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday during normal business hours.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dharia Rupal can be reached on (703)-305-4003. The fax for this group is (703)-746-7239.

12. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703)-746-7239 (For Status Inquiries, Informal or Draft Communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT");

(703)-746-7239 (For Official Communications Intended for entry, please mark "EXPEDITED PROCEDURE"),

(703)-746-7238 (For After Final Communications).

13. Any Inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-305-3900.

Any response to a final action should be mailed to:

BOX AF

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C.20231

Or faxed to:

Application/Control Number: 09/580,272

Page 7

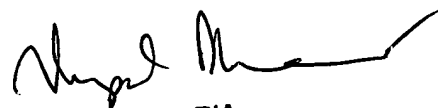
Art Unit: 2141

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to 4th Floor Receptionist, Crystal Park II,
2021 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202.

AM

Adnan Mirza

Examiner


RUPAL DHARIA
PRIMARY EXAMINER